

**ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
February 18, 2005  
MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Patricia Craddock, DDS, Chairperson, Nevada Dental Association  
Michelle Kling, RN, Division Director, Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD)  
Zona Hickstein, Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Clark County Health District (CCHD)  
Mike Johnson, LADC, BS, Saint Mary's Outreach Programs  
Sharon Peterson, RDH, M.Ed, State Board of Dental Examiners  
Mark Rosenberg, DDS, MPH  
Tyree Davis, DDS, Clinical Manager, Miles for Smiles  
Carol White, Ed.D, Principal, Rainshadow Community Charter High School  
Marlena Booth, Dental Director, Great Basin Primary Care (GBPC) for Patricia Durbin, Deputy Director, GBPC

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Joseph Patero, Senior Advocate  
Betty Pate, RDH, M.Ed, University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN), Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association  
Victor A. Sandoval, MPH, DDS, Professor, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) School of Dental Medicine

**NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT**

Chris Forsch, RDH, BS, Health Program Specialist 2, Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS)  
Terri Chandler, Coalition Coordinator, BFHS  
R. Michael Sanders, DMD, Ed.M., Director of Patient Care Services, UNLV, School of Dental Medicine, State Dental Health Consultant  
Tami Terstegee, Administrative Assistant 4, BFHS

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Robert O. Cooley, DDS, Director, University of Nevada School of Medicine (UNSOM), Pediatric Dental Residency Program  
Dolores Jones, Health Coordinator, Economic Opportunity Board (EOB), Health Services  
Maury Astley, Executive Director, Nevada Dental Association  
Brenda K. Starks, LPN, EOB Community Action Program (CAP)  
Sharon E. Russell, Office Assistant, EOB CAP  
Dianna Ferrari, LPN, EOB Head Start  
Paula Miller, LPN, EOB Head Start  
Denise Ogletree-McGuinn, Health Coordinator, EOB Head Start  
Alba Arron, Nurse, EOB Head Start

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Patricia Craddock called the Oral Health Advisory Committee (OHAC) to order at **9:45 am** at the Economic Opportunity Board (EOB) Head Start Learning Center in Las Vegas. This was a public meeting and the public was invited to make comments. In accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, this meeting was posted at the following locations: Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS), Carson City; Kinkead Building, Carson City; Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City; Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD), Reno; Clark County Health District (CCHD), Las Vegas; Elko Nursing Office, Elko; EOB Head Start

Learning Center, Las Vegas; and the Nevada State Health Division website at [www.health2k.state.nv.us](http://www.health2k.state.nv.us).

Introductions were made around the table.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2004**

Dr. Mark Rosenberg motioned for the minutes to be approved as written and Dr. Tyree Davis seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

#### **STATE DENTAL HEALTH CONSULTANT REPORT**

Dr. Michael Sanders spoke regarding the Give Kids a Smile program, which was held on Saturday, February 12, 2005 and had 230 children registered to attend. Out of those pre-registered children, 174 actually participated in the program. The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) School of Dental Medicine clinical facility was used on this day and all 104 chairs were occupied. 57 of the children had all of their care done from x-rays to fluoride treatments. All services were provided by volunteer dentists, hygienists, and students. There were three television stations covering the event.

Dr. Sanders commented the statement made by Senator Bob Beers regarding what the monetary savings would be if the dental school was closed is inaccurate. He stated the closing of the school would not save the amount of money Senator Beers believed since the state only provided about 18% of the budget.

Chris Forsch requested an overview of Give Kids a Smile Day. It is a nationwide annual event sponsored by the American Dental Association (ADA) and is held in February which is children's oral health month. Maury Astley noted discussions have taken place with Dr. Sanders regarding using the school to do quarterly Give Kids a Smile Day clinics. The program will be a coordinated effort with the Community Coalition on Oral Health (CCOH). The most significant issue is availability of supplies. There were over \$5,000 worth of supplies donated for the February 12th event. Ms. Forsch asked Terri Chandler, who is the Oral Health Coalition Coordinator, to work with Dixie Rogers on getting more supplies for next year. Dr. Davis inquired as to the dollar figure associated with the services provided. It was noted Dixie Rogers is working on those figures and a preliminary dollar figure fell somewhere between \$150,000 and \$170,000. Mr. Astley also explained the 1Day Program was started as a pilot project to serve only children. He continued by elaborating on how at first only children would be seen but as funds and volunteers grow other options would be offered such as services to adults and off site clinics. Mr. Astley stated the program would be similar to the Northern Nevada Dental Health Program except where they focus on Medicaid, SCHIP and uninsured children, this program would focus on uninsured children and expand to adults.

#### **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF THE ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM REPORT AND DIRECTION TO THE PROGRAM**

Ms. Forsch explained for the new members she normally provides a written report covering the ten goals which the Oral Health program must meet for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant.

#### **Goal One. To Maintain Oral Health Program Leadership Capacity**

Ms. Forsch stated Debbie Aquino has been hired for the half-time evaluation consultant position; she will start on March 1, 2005. Ms. Aquino has been given the task of contacting coalition members, partners, and anyone else who is involved with the Oral Health Program to gather

information in an effort to document the achievements of the program. This data is what is required for the CDC grant.

Discussion regarding the funding for the position of State Dental Health Officer took place. Ms. Forsch explained the process and how the recommendation is made for this funding.

**Goal Two. To Describe The Oral Health Disease Burden, Health Disparities And Unmet Needs In The State**

Ms. Forsch stated there have been no new reports since the last meeting. However, data is being gathered for new reports.

**Goal Three. To Update A Comprehensive Five-year State Oral Health Plan**

Ms. Forsch reports she is gratified by the number of items the OHAC and the two coalitions in Washoe County and Clark County have identified to support the State Oral Health Plan. In an effort to build on this, another State Oral Health Summit will be held on March 17 and 18, 2005 in Reno. Ms. Forsch stated the first day will be an overview of what is going on in the state and the second day will be limited to individuals who will serve on rural oral health action teams. She explained they will be breaking into smaller work groups to develop regional oral health plans. Dr. William Maas, the Division Director for the CDC will be a keynote speaker.

**Goal Four. To Sustain A Diverse Statewide Oral Health Coalition To Assist In Formulation Of Plans, Guide Projects And Identify Additional Financial Resources**

Ms. Forsch stated Ms. Chandler had been attending the Coalition for Underserved Populations (CUSP), CCOH meetings, Elko Tooth Fairy Council, and Lyon County Health Smiles. She has been helpful in offering support from the state level, fostering communication, and assisting in projects within those communities. Ms. Chandler gave an overview of the programs she is working on. Dr. Davis spoke on the transition of Miles for Smiles to Nevada Health Centers and gave a brief update on the new medical and dental clinics in Elko. He also noted Dr. Tim Hill is working in Elko full time now and is looking forward to the time when another dentist can be hired. Dr. Davis reported on the areas recently covered by the Miles for Smiles program. Ms. Forsch reported the Head Start Oral Health Meeting in Elko was attended by Head Start representatives from Ely. She noted she was impressed at how well they are meeting the needs of the children within their communities. She continued by stating there is a private practice dentist in Elko who has agreed to take Medicaid and Nevada Check  $\sqrt$  Up children who can not be taken care of on the Miles for Smiles van. This office is open seven days a week.

**Goal Five. To Enhance The Oral Disease Surveillance System By Continuing To Collect, Analyze And Disseminate Data To Support Program Activity**

Ms. Forsch reported three of the staff has been spending 80% of their time going out to senior centers and assisted living centers to do oral health screenings. They are coming back with incredible stories of what they are finding and have collected really good data. Based on the data being collected recommendations can be made on how to best meet the needs of individuals who are frail, elderly or have disabilities. Telephone conference calls between Ms. Forsch, Carol White, Dr. Victor Sandoval, Dr. Sanders, Dr. Steve Hackmyer, and Dr. Craddock have occurred in regards to this issue and they have begun a work plan to address the needs of this population including elder abuse.

Shari Peterson asked if there is a way to look at the specific parameters which are on the federal mandate regarding having a dental examination within the first 30 days of becoming a resident in a long term care facility. She noted in her experience it is not being done and was curious as to who is required to oversee this. Ms. Forsch stated the Bureau of Licensure and Certification

(BLC) is responsible. However, it is her understanding it is a requirement the facilities can not fulfill so it is not being done.

Mike Johnson asked if there will be training in the senior centers after the screenings. Ms. Forsch stated it would be done in those facilities where the training is requested. She stated the Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) Dental Hygiene program has also been involved in this in the north. Ms. Peterson suggested contacting the Silver Hair Society for input on the abuse issue. Ms. Forsch noted it would be easy to take the PANDA education and modify it for this training. It was mentioned the Division of Aging and the Marietta Coppa Senior Center in Washoe County might have additional information on this issue.

Ms. Petersen moved to have Ms. Forsch find out what the actual oral health screening requirement is for long term care/nursing facilities, do a survey of facilities on how or if the requirement is being met, do a survey of dentists to see if they are willing to provide this care or are providing this care, and contact the Silver Hair Society to inquire about elder abuse. A second was given by Michelle Kling. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Ms. Forsch reported it was originally planned to collect data from the naturally occurring fluoride levels in the water in communities that are not optimally fluoridated. The project was tabled because it escalated into a major project where there was no way to provide the funds or capacity to do it. She also stated Dr. Rosenberg has contacts at the CDC whom he contacted regarding the issues which arose regarding the equipment needed to complete the project. Dr. Rosenberg gave background on this issue. Ms. Forsch concluded by stating with the assistance of Dr. Rosenberg it appears the CDC has reconsidered and is now willing to allow the use of simpler equipment. She will be contacting CDC to confirm this and if given the approval will then pursue this project again.

**Goal Six. To Identify Prevention Opportunities For Systematic, Socio-political And/Or Policy Change To Improve Oral Health By Conducting A Periodic Assessment Of Policy And Systems Level Strategies With Potential To Reduce Oral Disease**

Ms. Forsch stated a month ago an environmental assessment survey was sent out to all OHAC members for the second time. She requested these be completed and returned as soon as possible. It is a requirement for the CDC grant and it is because of these we are receiving the greatest amount of funding from them.

Ms. Forsch continued by stating the State Board of Dental Examiners (SBDE) had their first public hearing regarding accepting working in a volunteer capacity for a non-profit organization to fulfill part of the Continuing Education Unit (CEU). The SBDE seemed very agreeable however, it was sent back to committee to be written with specific administrative language. It is looking very positive and is a direct outcome of the OHAC. She reported while in Atlanta at the CDC grantee meeting, she mentioned the SBDE outcome and other states were extremely interested. These other states are now looking at Nevada as a model for their own states.

Ms. Forsch stated she and Dr. Craddock attended the Medicaid Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC) meeting where one of the agenda items was the re-establishment or reconvening of a Dental Clinical Review Advisory Committee (CRAC). MCAC was very receptive to this but was concerned about expanding its size. It was suggested that perhaps the Dental CRAC would remain at three members initially. The current members of the Dental CRAC are Dr. Craddock, Dr. Jade Miller, a pediatric dentist from Reno, and Dr. BG Smith, who is on faculty at the Senior Community Clinic. The Dental CRAC will be reconvening as soon as possible and the individuals who were recommended to be additional members of the committee

will be invited to attend in an advisory capacity. At this meeting, recommendations will be made and the Dental CRAC will return to the MCAC where the size of the Dental CRAC can be officially changed.

Dr. Davis motioned to have Ms. Forsch draft a letter for Dr. Craddock's signature from the OHAC thanking Medicaid for recognizing the need to re-establish the Dental CRAC, include three suggested dates on which to hold the meetings, a list of individuals who are on the Dental CRAC and the individuals who would be invited to attend in an advisory capacity. Medicaid would be asked to select one of the three days and to contact all of those people to set up the meeting. Ms. Peterson seconded the motion. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Ms. Forsch mentioned she learned the draft language for BDR179, which relates to the sunset of licensure by credential had been written. It asked for SB133 to be reauthorized until 2007. It also asks for the State Board of Dental Examiners (SBDE) to accept the results of the Western Regional Examiners Boards (WREB) if they have been taken within the last five years and include a provision the National Dental Licensing Exam (NDLE) be considered if taken within the last five years. The Nevada Dental Hygienist's Association (NDHA) is concerned because the hygienists are not included in this. They will be lobbying to have hygienists included in the reauthorization. The WREB acceptance would go into effect in October when all bills go into effect. This would mean the licensure would be extended into 2007 and the WREB would go into effect as of October 2007. Dr. Rosenberg explained the history of SB133 and how it came to be passed. Mr. Astley discussed the Nevada Dental Association's (NDA) views of the bill.

Ms. Forsch reported she spoke with the administrator of the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy (DHCFP) who stated the Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) in Clark County will be opening up their panels in either March or April of this year and will be inviting private practice dentists to join. Dr. Cooley stated one of the issues dentists have with Medicaid is not in regards to patients but their reimbursement rates. Medicaid rates are about 50% of the usual and customary rates (UCR) on average which does not cover the dentist's overhead. Dentists in an effort to reduce this are going into surgery centers and using general anesthesia so they can perform more procedures at one appointment which puts quality of care in suspect.

**Goal Seven. To Develop And Coordinate Partnerships To Increase State Level And Community Capacity To Address Specific Oral Disease Prevention Intervention**

Ms. Forsch reported she had no new additions to this goal. Ms. Kling reported there is a group called Protect and Immunize Nevada's Kids who are partnering with the State Oral Health Program in putting together portfolios for parents of all newborns in Washoe County. The portfolio includes information on immunizations, health, and safety. The idea was to give parents a place to put their child's health information and records as well as valuable information regarding their child's health. This idea came about from one of OHAC's meetings during a discussion of what brochures were available to parents.

**Goal Eight. To Coordinate And Implement A Limited Community Water Fluoridation Program**

Ms. Forsch stated the OHP website had two good resources on fluoridation. One is for the providers, medical or dental, which is a flow chart showing providers the appropriate prescribing information for fluoride supplements and has the information as to where private water wells can be tested. The second is an excellent brochure for parents regarding fluoride supplements. Both of those are being printed and will be mailed to all pediatricians within the state. Ms. Forsch stated it would be good information to put into the Nevada Dental Association journal. She asked Dr. Sanders if he would include this in his next journal article. Dr. Craddock suggested finding

out what the medical schools are doing in regards to oral education and education of fluoride usage. She explained children normally see a pediatrician before a dentist and there is a lot of confusion when it comes to the fluoride issue.

Mr. Johnson made a motion for Ms. Forsch to draft a letter from Dr. Craddock to the Pediatric Residency Program asking to meet with them to discuss fluoridation and if proper dental education is part of the program and a second was given by Dr. Davis. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**Goal Nine. To Evaluate, Document And Share State Program Accomplishments, Best Practices, Lessons Learned And Use Of Evaluation Results**

Ms. Forsch reported while at the CDC Grantee Meeting last week, the chair of the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, Best Practices Committee came to her to ask if she would be willing to submit best practices submissions on state plans, coalitions, surveillance systems, and the integrated approach to providing oral health services.

Mr. Johnson stated Saint Mary's has become a new Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provider and is doing it on the mobile platform. They will be serving up to 2500 people. The idea is part of the process to look at the full range of nutritional issues and to make available to all individuals the opportunity to get referrals to oral health care. Grant funding has been received for the mobile platforms which will have a hygienist on board who will be doing fluoride varnish and sealants. For restorative services referrals will be given to providers. Mr. Johnson explained because the patients will be WIC clients follow ups will be done to see if they followed through with the oral health services. The goal is to provide services not only to those enrolled in WIC but also their other siblings and parents as well.

**Goal Ten. To Develop, Coordinate And Implement Limited School-Based Or School Linked Dental Sealant Programs.**

Ms. Forsch reported Saint Mary's which coordinated the northern rural Seal Nevada program has hired one dental hygienist to place sealants out in the rural communities. They are also looking to hire a second and possibly third hygienist. Ms. Petersen reported funding is in place to hire a hygienist to work with the southern program. She also reported they are looking at ways to get the program up and running again in the south.

**OHAC HAS BEEN ASKED TO ENDORSE AN INFORMATION SHEET ON THE ORAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE. THE PAPER WAS DEVELOPED AT THE REQUEST OF THE NORTHERN NEVADA DENTAL COALITION FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS (CUSP). CUSP AND THE COMMUNITY COALITION FOR ORAL HEALTH HAVE ALREADY ENDORSED IT. IT IS A PAPER SIMILAR TO THE ONES ON SEALANTS, WATER FLUORIDATION, SENIOR ORAL HEALTH, WORKFORCE ETC. COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE K-12 WHITE PAPER AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO STAFF.**

Dr. Craddock asked for comments. Ms. Forsch stated it has been approved by the CCOH and CUSP.

Ms. Peterson moved to approve the information sheet as presented and Dr. Davis seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

### **DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION REGARDING VACANCY ON THE ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

Ms. Forsch reported Pastor Anthony Steele had left the committee due to his promotion to a new position in Minneapolis. After his resignation, she sent an email asking for suggestions for his replacement. Dr. Rosenberg suggested considering Dr. Tim Ricks who is a dentist with the United States Public Health Service and he is the lead unit dentist for the Indian Health Service. Dr. Davis asked if the person should be faith based. Ms. Forsch explained it is a matter of keeping the committee diversified and at an odd number of members so a majority could be reached. A brief discussion if faith, ethnicity, or cultural background should be considered in choosing candidates.

Mr. Johnson moved for OHAC members to send the names of their prospective candidates to Ms. Forsch by March 4, 2005 and Dr. Davis seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

### **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION REGARDING STRATEGIES BY ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2004 STATE ORAL HEALTH PLAN.**

Ms. Forsch stated Goal 6 is under discussion at this meeting which is regarding increasing access to direct dental services.

#### **Objective 6.1-Eliminate barriers to provider participation in public health insurance programs.**

Ms. Forsch noted working to re-establish the Dental CRAC in Medicaid is certainly addressing this. Ms. Peterson stated in 3.2 OHAC does not have anything identified but CUSP and CCOH do. The OHAC directed Ms. Forsch to send a request to Medicaid to send a representative to the OHAC meetings on an ongoing basis to maintain a dialog with Medicaid.

**Objective 6.2-Promote and publicize successful programs that improve oral health to facilitate their replication.** Ms. Forsch stated the submissions for the best practices would qualify for this. The OHAC also reviews and makes recommendations to various white papers or topic areas. Ms. Forsch inquired as to whether or not the OHAC would want a white paper about St. Mary's or Miles for Smiles. A group discussion followed on the purpose of doing these and if they are beneficial. Ms. Forsch stated she knows for certain the OHAC is a resource for regional oral health groups. No decision was made on producing the white papers.

**Objective 6.3-Create a stable source of funding for safety net providers.** Discussion followed regarding the terminology of the word stable in the objective and where to find funding on an on-going basis. It was agreed legislature should be shown that direct funding for oral health is needed in the community based clinics which are run by the state.

### **COMMITTEE CALENDAR DETERMINE DATE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Ms. Forsch suggested the Committee meet in June in Reno. It was suggested the meeting be held at Saint Mary's so they may have a tour of the van. The meeting will be held on Friday, June 10, 2005. Time will be determined upon the flight availability. **MOTION APPROVED** by consensus.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION**

No comments were given.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at **12:00 pm.**